

LESSON 2

JESUS AND THE WOMAN AT THE WELL

LESSON AT A GLANCE

WONDER TRUTH: God Sent Jesus to Save Us

SCRIPTURE: John 4

GOD'S BIG STORY: Jesus talks with a Samaritan woman at a well and reveals that He is the Messiah, the promised One sent to save all people

WORD OF WONDER: God so loved the world. He gave His one and only Son. —from John 3:16

FOUNDATION BUILDING BLOCKS

WHO?

When Assyria destroyed the northern kingdom of Israel in 722 BC, foreigners were sent to live there. The Jewish people who were left behind intermarried with the foreigners and became known as Samaritans. The Jewish people considered Samaritans to be defiled religiously and ethnically.

WHAT?

It would have been very uncommon for a Jewish man to interact with a Samaritan woman. And with her background, the woman in this account may have been an outcast among her own people. But this Samaritan woman was about to get some very good news from Jesus!

WHERE?

The conversation takes place at Jacob's well, which is not mentioned elsewhere in Scripture. The Samaritans worshiped God at Mount Gerizim, which is where the Israelites announced the blessings they would receive for following God's law in the book of Deuteronomy.

WHEN?

Just a chapter earlier in the book of John, Jesus told Nicodemus how to receive eternal life. Nicodemus was righteous in the Jews' eyes, and the Samaritan woman was a defiled sinner. But both needed to hear the good news about Jesus!

CONNECTING TO GOD'S BIG STORY

Jesus revealed to the Samaritan woman that He is the long-awaited Messiah, and many Samaritans came to believe in Him because of her testimony. Jesus was beginning to make it clear that God's promise of salvation and restoration is available to all people everywhere.

Activity: Pass the Cup

Greet the kids warmly and welcome them to church.

Welcome to church! Do you see this cup? What do you do with a cup? Allow the kids to answer. **We drink from it! Today we're going to hear about when Jesus talked to a woman and asked for a drink of water! Where do you get your drinks from when you drink water?** Allow the kids to respond.

Let's pass this cup around and get curious!

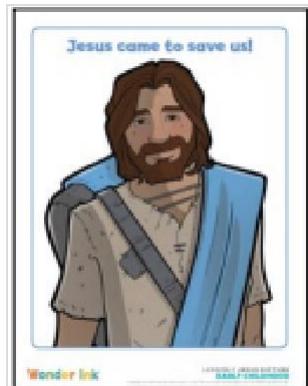
Show kids a cup and let them take turns passing it around. Watch to ensure they don't put their mouths on it. Let them feel it and look at it. Ask them what it feels like.

Let the kids stack the cups and take turns knocking them down.

Activity: Hidden Jesus Picture

Ahead of time, print the [Jesus Picture](#) and hide it somewhere in the room. **We're going to play a game where you will use your eyes to look for something! Are you ready? You're looking for a picture of Jesus! It's hidden somewhere in the room, and you can find it!**

Invite the kids to look for the Jesus Picture. If they need help, offer clues about where it's hidden. Then have them close their eyes or turn their backs, and hide the picture again, but this time, hide it somewhere near water (such as a sink/ faucet or a water bottle). Allow them to look for the picture again.



You may not expect to have found the Jesus Picture near water. In our story today, we'll hear about a woman who went to gather water and met Jesus there! We'll hear how Jesus changed her life and how He can change ours too! Our Wonder Truth today is GOD SENT JESUS TO SAVE US.

Encourage the kids to do the following motions while you repeat the Wonder Truth. Older toddlers can say the words with you as they do the motions.

GOD—Point up.

SENT JESUS—Arms out to the side (like a cross).

TO SAVE—Fold hands together (praying hands).

US—Point to yourself.

Prayer and Blessing

After the kids finish their activity, pray with them, thanking God for loving us and sending Jesus.

When I say the word, “love” or “loving,” put your hands on your heart.

God, thank You for loving (hands on heart) us so much that You sent Your Son, Jesus, to be our Savior and best friend. Help us share that love (hands on heart) with others. We love (hands on heart) You! In Jesus’ name, Amen.

Encourage the kids to hold their hands in front of them, with palms up, as if their hands are open to receive something. Tell them to listen and receive the blessing as you speak it over them.

Blessing: God sent Jesus to people who were ignored, and He brought hope to the world. May you always remember that you have hope in Jesus no matter what. God sent Jesus to save you because He loves you!

Activity: Water from the Well

Set out a bowl or bucket partially filled with blue pom-poms. Set an empty bowl or bucket on the other side of the room. Give the kids small cups and let them take turns pretending to “draw water from the well” and collect a small amount of pom-poms from the bowl in the cup. Let the kids carry the water (pom-poms) to the empty bowl or bucket and dump the water into it.

The woman in our story was at a well to get water, but she got something even greater! She got to know Jesus! Today we learned from God’s big story that God sent Jesus to save us!